

## Jennings County Commissioners Meeting

May 25, 2017 6:30 pm

The meeting opened with Matt Sporleder leading the pledge to the flag.

First on the agenda was Terry Furgason with Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War proposing to put a civil war statue on the Courthouse lawn? He was wearing the gray uniform of the Union to give his presentation. He gave hand outs to the commissioners on his presentation and also had a slide show presentation. They would like to put a stone monument on the southeast corner of the Courthouse lawn facing the river. The monument would have soldier's names on the sides of it. He had a picture of what it would look like on the Courthouse lawn that was photo shopped. The cost would be \$29,850.00. They would do all the fundraising for this project, so there would be no cost to the county. Matt Sporleder had a concern about it blocking the view of people pulling out on the highway and stated he would like for Gary Driver to check it so it is not blocking the view. It was stated that Area Plan and INDOT would have setbacks for this so it would have to be in compliance with them. Matt also said that if they get most of the money raised and need some help with the rest come back and maybe they could find some money to help them.

Bob Willhite made a motion to allow the statue be placed on the Courthouse lawn. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it Unanimous. Motion passed.

Second on the agenda were Dave Gerth from EMS and Britt Burgmeier from 911 they want permission to sell the boat that EMS has. The boat is obsolete now and has not been used for 2 years now. Dave stated that the boat they have is too big for what they need it for. He stated that they have used an airboat from Columbus several times. Britt stated that several of the Fire Departments have been through water rescue training and have inflatable boats they are using for water rescues now. The commissioners asked what kind of boat and motor it was. The motor is Mercury and he thought the boat was Land Owl. He said he paid \$1,500 for the boat but could not remember the price on the motor. Ellie Bright County Attorney stated they would need do sealed bids and to run an ad in the paper three times and might add a picture with it. The ad

should state the bids are due in the Auditor's Office with a date and time due. Dave Gerth stated the money from the sale would go into a fund for water rescue.

Bob Willhite made a motion to let EMS sell the boat. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it Unanimous. Motion passed.

Next on the Agenda was Marie Shepherd from Area Planning Commission asking for a rezone on property owned by Melvin and Peggy Renfro at 1595 W County Rd 850 S Commiskey, IN. from Residential Single Family to Agricultural. It had already passed the ESC and Area Plan Board.

A motion was made by Bob Willhite to approve the rezone. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it Unanimous.

#### Things to Discuss:

Tara Lloyd from Beam Longest and Neff came to clear up some issues that are going on with the Bridge # 52 project. She brought copies of emails from Mark Swor, P.E. Structural Engineer and handed them out to the Commissioners. She stated that the letting date had been changed twice because of issues with utilities signing paperwork. Now there is an issue with the road being closed and that was not in the plans. Tara stated that INDOT would have looked at these plans twice so they should not have missed that the road was to remain open while the work was being done, they approved the plans. She also stated that the contractor might try to ask for more money for flaggers, but they should have also saw in the bid that the road was to be open during construction of the bridge. Both INDOT and the Contractor are saying they didn't see this in the plans and bid. Beam, Longest, and Neff are trying to set up a meeting next week with INDOT and the Contractor, Jim Reeves has been included in everything and will be at this meeting. Tara just wanted the Commissioners be aware of the situation and know what is going on. Matt asked if Kathy Eaton was made aware of what is going on, and wanted her to be contacted. Dave Lane made a comment they wouldn't have done the bridge that way if it was going to close the road.

Shawn Dixon was not on the agenda but wanted to see about getting the speed limit changed on County Road 950/1000 N from 55 mph to 35 mph. Matt asked if Jim Reeves could look and see if there was an ordinance on this road already. If not Shawn would need to come back to the Commissioners about this.

Gary Driver wanted clarification on an employee leaving and the sick bank. Can this person donate five of their days to someone else who is still employed? Ellie said no they have to be completely out of Sick, Personal and Vacation to receive this days.



Gary also asked about coming to the commissioners to hire replacements for two employees leaving.

Bob Willhite made a motion to let Gary hire replacements for two employees leaving. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it unanimous.

Jim Reeves asked permission to go to the County Council to ask for match money.

Bob Willhite made a motion to let Jim go to the County Council and ask for match money. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it unanimous.

Ellie wanted the commissioners to sign an engagement to hire Peters Municipal Consultants for the jail project.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign the engagement paperwork. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it unanimous.

Bob Willhite made a motion to approve prior minutes. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it unanimous.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign claims. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it unanimous.

Bob Willhite made a motion to adjourn. Dave Lane seconded the motion and Matt made it unanimous.

Attest:



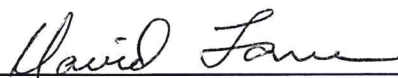
Kay Sue Vance, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, President



Robert Willhite



David Lane